

Decision Memo
Forest Plan Amendment No. 11
Nez Perce National Forest
Idaho County, Idaho
January, 1991

Forest Plan Amendment No. 11 adjusts the Forestwide monitoring program described in Chapter V and Appendix O of the Plan. The amendment also updates the fish/water quality objectives listed in Appendix A.

The affected monitoring elements are fire, range, fish habitat, and lands suitable for timber production. All of the following changes in the monitoring program were recommended in the Nez Perce Forest Monitoring Report for 1989.

Fire

Forest Plan, Chapter V, page V-6, Table V-1

Item 1k, change to read:

Acres and Number of Wildfire and Prescribed Fire

Forest Plan, Appendix O, page O-5

Item 1k, add the following language:

Prescribed fire, planned or unplanned, is monitored to determine if cost-effective alternatives have been emphasized and if it has been planned to maintain healthy, dynamic ecosystems that meet land management objectives. These monitoring elements can be reviewed and documented by an interdisciplinary team.

Prescribed fire influences air quality. Prescribed fire programs must be responsive to National, State, and local air quality regulations and agreements. Monitoring prescribed fire programs is essential to see that they adhere to these air quality regulations and agreements. Preparation and prescribed fire plans must address air quality.

Range

Forest Plan, Chapter V, page V-6, Table V-1

Add monitoring item as follows:

NFMA Requirement 36CFR 219	Item No.	Action, Effects, or Resources to be Measured	Expected Precision	Expected Reliability	Reported Time
.12(k)(1)	11	Range Analysis and Allotment Manage- ment Plan Updates	High	High	Annually

Forest Plan, Appendix O, page O-3:*Item 1g heading, change to:*

Item 1g and 11.

Item 1g and 11, add the following:

In the field, livestock numbers are spot-counted annually as they enter the Forest. The annual grazing statistical report provides permit information by District and Forest. This report along with other file information will be used to summarize permitted grazing use.

The Forest will monitor 10 percent of the existing grazing allotment management plans annually to evaluate how closely standards and direction in the Forest Plan are being accomplished.

Fish Habitat**Forest Plan, Appendix O, page O-8, Table O-1***Delete reference to Trail Creek.**Change "Slide Creek" to "Upper Big Mallard Creek".***Forest Plan, Appendix O, page O-13, Table O-3***Delete Trail Creek as a monitoring station.***Lands Suitable for Timber Production****Forest Plan, Chapter V, page V-7, Table V-1***Item 5, change title to read:*

Site-specific Examinations to Determine Suitability of Land for Timber Management.

Wild and Scenic Rivers**Forest Plan, Chapter V, page V-7, Table V-1***Add monitoring item:*

NFMA Requirement 36CFR 219	Item No.	Action, Effects, or Resources to be Measured	Expected Precision	Expected Reliability	Reported Time
.12(k)(2)	2n	Management of Designated or Eligible Wild, Scenic, or Recreational River Segments	Moderate	Moderate	5 Years

Forest Plan, Appendix O, page 17:*Add Item 2n:*

Each year, districts will assess whether designated or eligible wild, scenic, or recreational river segments are being managed according to approved management plans or Forest Plan direction. The annual

narrative will describe actual or proposed activities or management strategies that occurred during the year, and whether such activities or strategies complied with area management direction.

Fish/Water Quality

Forest Plan, Appendix A, pp. 1-7:

Fish habitat/water quality objectives for the following prescription watersheds are revised to reflect current information. Asterisks (*) highlight the corrected values.

Prescription Watershed Nbr	Prescription Watershed Name	Beneficial Use	Current Fishery Habitat Potential(%)
17060301-01-07*	Patrol Creek*	A	100
17060301-01-08*	Lower Running Creek*	A	100
17060301-01-09*	Lynx Creek*	A	100
17060301-01-10*	South Fork Running Creek*	A	1000
17060301-01-11*	Middle Running Creek*	A	1000
17060301-01-12*	Warm Springs Creek*	A	100
17060301-01-13*	Tom Creek*	A	100
17060301-01-14*	Upper Running Creek*	A	100
17060302-01-08	Twentythreemile Creek	R*	100*
17060302-02-28	Lower Horse Creek*	R	90
17060302-03-30	Packer Creek	R*	100*
17060302-03-32	Renshaw Creek	R*	100*
17060302-03-35	Cupboard Creek	R*	100*
17060304-06-09	Decker Creek	R*	100*

I have determined that because this amendment makes only minor changes in the forestwide standards and guidelines set out in the Forest Plan, the amendment is not a significant amendment. In addition, adoption of this amendment will not significantly change the Forestwide environmental impacts disclosed in the Forest Plan Environmental Impact Statement, and the amendment is therefore categorically excluded from further NEPA documentation.

This decision is subject to appeal pursuant to Forest Service regulations at 36 CFR Part 217. Appeals must be filed within 45 days after publication of legal notice in the *Idaho County Free Press*. Notices of Appeal must meet the requirements of 36 CFR 217.9.

Additional information can be obtained from Joe Bednorz, Nez Perce National Forest, Route 2, Box 475, Grangeville, Idaho 83530.

FOR 
DAVID E. PONCIN
Acting Forest Supervisor

1/24/91
Date